

Town of Mansfield Transportation Advisory Committee
Minutes of the Meeting – March 18, 2014

Present: Hultgren, Marcellino, Ryan, Gupta, Taylor, Aho (WRTD rep), Carrington (Director of Public Works), Painter (Director of Planning and Development), Visci (Transportation Coordinator)

The meeting was convened at 7:00. Introductions were made. Since no chairperson has been elected since Frantz resigned, Hultgren acted as chair for this meeting and the election of a chairperson will be placed on the next meeting's agenda.

The PZC subcommittee's October 2013 recommendations for a priority listing of bikeways and walkways in Town were discussed and compared to the TAC's previous listing from October of 2012. The criteria presented in the subcommittee's recommendations were approved by consensus with two suggested augmentations: First, to take into consideration the potential for high pedestrian/bicycle use (rather than just the actual current use); and second to be able to consider smaller, inexpensive projects that were easily constructable as part of the listing. Painter will take these minor recommendations back to the PZC subcommittee for comment and incorporation into the proposed criteria.

The transportation part of the infrastructure chapter (#8) of the Mansfield Tomorrow Plan was reviewed and discussed. A number of suggestions were made for minor changes to the chapter's wording which Painter made notes on and will incorporate into the chapter. The water/wastewater part of the chapter was not reviewed by this committee.

The League of American Bicyclists' response to the Town's application to be a bike friendly community was discussed. The following suggestions were made in the response to the Town: 1) Establish an active bicycle advisory committee 2) Have the Town adopt a complete streets policy 3) Expand the Town's system of bike routes, bike lanes and shared bike spaces (sharrow designations) 4) Conduct skill classes, seminars and educational events on bicycling and bicycle safety 5) Begin an active bicycle safety enforcement program with the local constabulary for both motorists and bicyclists 6) Develop a complete bicycle facility master plan. Hultgren said he would attempt to establish an active bicycle advisory group and get going on these 6 recommendations during 2014.

Ryan Visci, the Town's Transportation Coordinator, updated committee members on the construction of the Transportation Center in Storrs Center. While the 3 bus services (UConn, WRTD and Peter Pan) were using the stops now, he said that the floors should be finished next week, and that some heating system revisions were necessary to obtain a certificate of occupancy for using the building. The grand opening is scheduled for Monday, April 14th at 10:00 AM.

Gupta suggested a Town map be brought to meetings for a geographical reference to projects discussed.

The next meeting will be held in approximately 2 months (mid-May). Suggested dates will be emailed to members and those interested in attending.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lon Hultgren
Acting Chair